



1-16-04

PATENTS  
15804-0107  
03.0584.5

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re The Application of )  
Achim Bletz et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/625,040 ) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: July 23, 2003 ) Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
For: LEVEL METER )  
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 )  
 )  
 ) Cesari and McKenna, LLP  
 ) 88 Black Falcon Avenue  
 ) Boston, MA 02210  
 ) January 15, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION-DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In keeping with the duty of candor and good faith owed to the Patent and Trademark Office, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention the references listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449. A copy of each listed reference is enclosed.

**DE 195 10 484 A1** This document describes a level meter with a radar system 1 which has a micro wave generator producing a microwave signal which is reflected at the surface of a medium 2 in a container 4, and a microwave detector across a receiver aerial. The transmitter aerial and/or the receiver aerial can be designed as a dielectric rod radia-

tion unit. A single surface wave transmitter simultaneously serves as a transmitter aerial and as a receiver aerial designed preferably as a cylindrical surface wave aerial. The receiver and transmitter aerials are immersed at least partially in the medium. The aerials extend at least approximately, over the entire height of a container storing the medium.

**DE 101 36 754 A1** In this document the determination of the density of a medium 30 in a container 20 using a probe 10 is described. A questioning signal S1 is fed into the probe and a response signal S2 is detected. A medium reflection factor or impedance is determined along the probe, based on the response time, and the density along the probe is determined using these values. The questioning signal band width is at least 50 MHz, especially 100 MHz.

**DE 100 37 715 A1** This document relates to a device for measuring the filling level of a filling material 12 in a container 11, having a sensor 2 and a control /evaluation unit 4. It is an object to propose a device which permits optimized determination of the filling level and/or the monitoring of the filling level in a container 11. This object is achieved by virtue of the fact that the sensor 2 is designed such that it is operated in conjunction with at least two different measurement methods and/or the sensor 2 is operated in at least 2 different operating modes, that the control evaluation unit 4 operates the sensor 2 respectively according to at least one of two measurement methods and/or at least in one of the two operating modes and that the control/evaluation unit 4 determines the filling level of the filling material 12 in the container 11 with the aid of the measured data of sensor 2, which are supplied via at least one measurement method and/or during at least one operating mode.

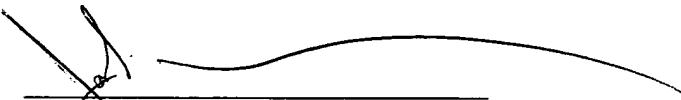
**DE 100 45 235 A1** This document describes a filling level measuring device which is used to measure the filling of a filling material in a container 1, and a probe 17 is provided, which protrudes inside the container. The filling level measuring device can be mounted and dismounted without the probe 17 needing to be moved in the container 1. The device comprises a housing 11 consisting of a first section 13 and a second section 21, that sections 13, 21 respectively comprising a central axis bore 27 whereby the first section 13 has an inner diameter which is smaller than that of the second section 21; a securing device 14 provided on the housing 11 for the securing the filling level measuring device 3 on to the container 1; an insert 23 disposed in the housing 11 in such a way so that it can pivot in relation to said housing 11, that insert being placed on a surface 25 between the first and second sections 13, 21; a probe 17 protruding into the container 1; and a connecting element which connects the insert 23 and the sensor 17 along a prolongation of a longitudinal axis of the probe 17.

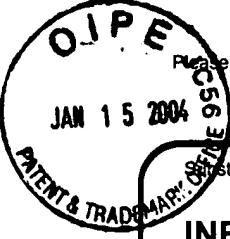
To the extent required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), Applicants have described what they consider to be the relevance of any foreign-language reference. The Office may find additionally relevant material in these or other references.

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Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account  
No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

**U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

<i><b>Complete if Known</b></i>	
Application Number	10/625,040
Filing Date	July 23, 2003
First Named Inventor	Achim Bletz et al.
Group Art Unit	Not yet assigned
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	15804-0107

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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